

USDA - PPQ / CFIA - PHPD BILATERAL MEETINGS February 12 - 13, 2002
DRAFT FOR USDA - PPQ COMMENTS

A. GENERAL AND CROSS COMMODITY ISSUES

1. Smuggling Interdiction

- Canada / US consider SI a priority.
- Agreement that these are Very specialized investigations

Actions - Set up an informal working group to discuss the cooperation on an ongoing basis.

- Grode / Willcox plus Plant Health rep.
 - set the focus of the issue
 - set the parameters for cooperation
 - set up the priorities
 - set up the security of information
- Review Customs MOU's around the types of information that is shared between the two countries.
- Database sharing between the two countries.
- Follow up with Suzanne Frost and Archie Stewart on the existing MOU's.-- Willcox
- Check up on the Container Inspection MOU and share some detail with the Interdiction group -- Stubbings

2. Working Groups to be Established - Four Informal Commodity Groups based on Canadian PHPD Sectional organization to meet on a quarterly basis, or as necessary. A 5th group on Import/Export matters was rejected for the time being.

3. Re-export Phytosanitary Certification

Action: PPQ will be changing re-export policy to bring it more in line with international standard. -
Expected time frame ~12 months.

PPQ will place in "EXCERPT" that for shipments to Canada, US inspectors shouldn't declare that the shipment meets US import requirements.

4. Document Procedures re: in-transit shipments to Mexico

Action: It is not PPQ policy to take the certificate originals from transit commodities destined to other countries. Port Operations will check out why it happened at Sweet Grass, MT and report back ASAP.

5. New Pest Policies

Action: US bilateral group to convey to their colleagues the message that Canada is interested in working directly with the US New Pest Advisory Group. Should also be included in MOU discussion to be raised by Bob Carberry to Richard Dunkle.

6. California State Requirements

Action: Letter to be sent from Carberry to Dunkle expressing Canada's concerns ASAP.

B. FORESTRY ISSUES

1. Sudden Oak Death (SOD)

Action: PPQ will publish Feb 14, 2002 an Interim Rule - Domestic Quarantine on SOD

Action: Urgent need for a working group to meet to deal with requirements for strawberry plants from California.

2. US recognition of CWPCP in lieu of phytos for Conifer Wood Packaging Exported to China

Action: US Rule presently needs a certificate of heat treatment but what it is defined as is up to Canada. Must be some type of document that the exporter can hold on file. Forestry group to look at certificate possibility and present it to Fred Thomas for evaluation.

Canada will discuss possibility of demonstrating SWPM marking system with China.

3. Time frame for adoption of draft International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) on Guidelines for regulating wood packaging material in international trade

Action: Forestry working group will discuss implementation of the ISPM at the earliest possible opportunity.
US to confirm to Canada the likely time frame for adoption in USA.

4. New Policies -firewood, cedar longhorn beetle, red-haired pine bark beetle

Information shared and discussed on a number of new policy possibilities. No specific actions established.

C. HORTICULTURE

1. Plum Pox Virus (survey equivalency, movement restrictions)

Action: US to evaluate Canadian list of non-susceptible Prunus species and subspecies and to look at legal ways to allow entry of species not on US list. Report back through Mark Knez.

2. Barberry Programs

Action: A revised policy directive D-01-94 is being provided to PPQ for comments. D-memo still requires phytosanitary certification to cultivar level. US will provide comments ASAP

3. US Proposal for Phytosanitary Certificates for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

Action: US will keep Canada advised of movement forward on this issue.

4. Chrysanthemum White Rust

Action: Canada will share the present eradication protocol with PPQ for use in their National consultations on the issue. US will provide risk assessments that it has to Canada for review. U.S. will get back to Canada after ~~their~~ National consultations and will include Canada in discussions as participants.

5. Cut Flower Program

Action: When a draft program has been prepared by Flower industry, PHPD and PPQ will both review legality and feasibility of the program. If necessary, Canada will consult with PPQ during the preparation of the program if required for direction.

6. Insect ID at North Border affecting Flowers and Ornamental Plants

Report: PPQ is hiring an identifier for the port of Detroit. Digital imaging equipment has been installed at Buffalo.

Action: PPQ going to see if (M. Knez suggested) "discard authority" be given to port inspectors to facilitate earlier decision making on shipments and in addition seek to have an alternate identifier for off hours.

Action: Canada to check with industry regarding possible funding of weekend and evening overtime inspection and identification costs by Canadian export industry.

7. Accredited Nursery Program in the US

Action: US wishes to arrange a visit to one of the Canadian nurseries under the Certified Nursery Program. Arrangements through direct contact with Horticulture. Fred Thomas to arrange through contact with Horticulture Section.

D. POTATOES

1. GMO Certification

Statement: US is not considering ~~any movement toward~~ certification of GMO free. States may be considering issuance of statement that GM potatoes are not in commercial production in their their respective states.

Action: Further meeting in Ottawa specifically on this issue in about 10 days.

2. PVYn Status and Management Plan Update

Action: US Industry, on a voluntary basis, is post harvest testing 100% of lots this year.

3. Potato Wart (conducive year US response)

Action: US has not finished the analysis. Results should be available within 2-3 weeks. An official response will be provided at that time. Canada requested a response by March 1 if at all possible.

4. BRR Testing (Recognition of US and State Government labs)

Action: The US will provide a list of public labs to be recognized by Canada by letter. A conference call will be established to define the specific needs for testing and equivalent testing. The US will then provide a protocol to Canada for evaluation when it has been developed.

5. Brown Rot, race 3 in US Greenhouses

Action: US to provide results of the investigation and delimitation of the outbreak. Direct communication with Potato Section at earliest possible opportunity.

6. Mexican apparent interceptions of GN and CRKN in US potatoes from various states.

Action: US is planning to do national exotic pest surveys for nematodes this year
US will supply a response to Canada on what information was submitted to Mexico in response to the allegations.

7. Washington State is requesting a review of a sampling and production site protocol for exports to Canada.

Action: Protocol and information will be sent to Canada. Canada will review and respond to US.

E. GRAINS AND FIELD CROPS

1. Seed Exported to US

Action: US will review the package of documents presented and respond to Canada in the week following this meeting.

2. Karnal Bunt Testing on Transit of US Grain Exported Through Canada

Action: US will provide a letter with historic details of the testing results to request an exemption for the testing.

Action: Canada will review the results and respond quickly to the US proposal.

3. Possible Change to Mexican NOM-028-FITO on Import of Non-propagative Grains and Seeds

Change (requirement for point of origin fumigation) to NOM 28 not confirmed. US and Canada remain concerned about justification for fumigation requirement for grains.

Action: Canada will confirm when the NOM is opened for official comment. There will be exchange of information on any comments sent to Mexico.

4. Certification of Canadian grain Exported through the US

Statement: Under present policy US issues a re-export phyto on any Canadian grains. Phyto to the US from Canada is not required. Likely policy change in about a year to reflect international standard..

Canada will review its own policy on this in the interim and will also look at Mexican requirements.

5. Importation of oats from Ukraine

Statement: So far there is no evidence that any import requirements and documentation have been violated.

Action: Canada will provide their own report.
US will look at internal communications within APHIS that led to the alert.